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TRAFFIC(U.S.A.)

WORLD WILDLIFE FUND-U.S.

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MONITORING WILDLIFE TRADE ENHANCES CONSERVATION AWARENESS

by

Nicole Duplaix and David Mack

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TRAFFIC (U.S.A.) — Trade Records Analysis of Flora and Fauna in Commerce — is a Specialist Group of the Species Survival Commission of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. Its function is to monitor the international trade in wildlife and plants. TRAFFIC (U.S.A.) is funded by World Wildlife Fund-U.S.

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Nicole Duplaix[1] and David Mack[2]

TRAFFIC (Trade Records Analysis of Flora and Fauna in Commerce) is a Specialist Group of the Species Survival Commission (SSC) of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). TRAFFIC's function is to monitor the trade of wildlife and plants. Its structure is that of an information network consisting of an international office located in Cambridge, England, called the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Unit (WTMU) and of individual TRAFFIC units established at a national or regional level (U.S., Kenya, West Germany, and others soon in Japan and Australia).

BACKGROUND

TRAFFIC's potential usefulness was realized when the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) came into force on 1 July 1975. This placed a special emphasis on the existing need to closely monitor the international trade in wildlife and plants which the IUCN/SSC had already recognized in 1972 when it created TRAFFIC's predecessor, the Animal Trade Information Service (ATIS). TRAFFIC became an IUCN/SSC Specialist Group in 1975, to gather trade data and assess its impact on the status of species in the wild. Its role is to scrutinize international trade routes to identify the movements of legal, and sometimes illegal trade taken in contravention of CITES or national regulations. The strongest emphasis was placed on objectivity and scientific methodology - TRAFFIC is a wildlife trade data center, not a radical watchdog group out to discredit wildlife users.

To extend this monitoring effort further, TRAFFIC(U.S.A.) was established in April 1979. We are funded by the World Wildlife Fund-U.S.

FUNCTIONS

Due to our ties with the IUCN and the World Wildlife Fund, TRAFFIC plays many roles. First and foremost, we produce trade reports with a wide distribution to government agencies here and abroad, the CITES Secretariat, conservation organizations, and other interested institutions and individuals. Since monitoring the wildlife trade is a relatively new science, the identification and volume of wildlife species in trade has been given first priority. The data gathered from our analysis are then passed on

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to members of the SSC Specialist Groups and other scientists to determine also whether the trade in a species is detrimental to the wild populations or legislation is needed for its protection.

For instance, TRAFFIC(U.S.A.)'s parrot trade report was used to defend the listing of all non-endangered psittacines on CITES Appendix II. The report contained detailed information on the voluminous trade covering 133 parrot species entering the U.S. from 48 countries. While the U.S. government did not defend this position, the third world countries, where the birds originate, were unanimous in their wish to list parrots on Appendix II. The final vote - 32 in favor of listing the Order, 4 against (including the U.S.).

A spin-off of TRAFFIC's data gathering activities involves the illegal trade. Smuggling is often uncovered simply by analyzing the given range of a species and the trade routes used to export it from the country of origin to its final destination. For instance, in our parrot trade report, endemic Brazilian conures were imported from Paraguay and Bolivia; however, Brazil banned the commercial export of all wildlife in 1967. Such dealings are not restricted to South America; in Southeast Asia, Indonesia prohibits the export of both Sulphur-crested cockatoos and Eclectus parrots, but several countries, including Singapore, Sweden and West Germany, re-exported them to the U.S., listing Indonesia as the "country of origin". Also, Thailand exported 16 Palm cockatoos to the U.S., a species protected and banned from commercial trade throughout its range in Indonesia, Australia, and Papua New Guinea. The Philippines and West Germany also re-exported these birds listing Thailand as the "country of origin".

The U.S. government's enforcement of the Lacey Act, one of the laws covering the above violations, has been severely hampered by the lack of knowledge of the latest wildlife trade laws of the exporting countries. For example, is a 1972 Central American Presidential decree banning all wildlife trade still in effect when the president is ousted in 1976? The IUCN Law Office in Bonn has been compiling and computerizing all wildlife and environmental laws. When finished, a simple entry of an animal or plant species will provide a list of countries which protect it under what law or decree. Until such time as this source can be fully utilized, TRAFFIC contacts CITES Management Authorities and government agencies, etc., to check wildlife laws or verify the regulations already in our files.

So TRAFFIC uses trade statistics, import forms and other verifiable sources of information to compile data on a given taxa in trade. We are extremely careful how we compile and analyze our information; we have found, for instance, that the wildlife trade data we gather for the same time period from different agencies such as Law Enforcement, Customs, and the Wildlife Permit Office

rarely agree. Which figure should we use? Rather than trust second-hand information, our staff also checks each wildlife 3-177 wildlife import document - there were 52,000 of them last year. This first-hand information has greatly enhanced our understanding of the international wildlife trade picture, and that way we come as close as we can to being 100% accurate. There is however a sign hanging in our office to remind us that "There is nothing so satisfying to the mind of the reader as precise numbers and nothing so little deserving of his confidence."[1] Deserving our readers' confidence is very important to us.

After this introduction to why and how TRAFFIC operates, I'd like to give a short synopsis of some of the latest wildlife trade reports on live primates, psittacines, reptiles, and tropical fish.

PRIMATES

This report will actually be a chapter in a book edited jointly by the IUCN/SSC TRAFFIC and Primate Specialist Groups which will cover the primate trade, status of species, captive breeding programs, and government procurement procedures.

The number of primates being imported by the U.S. declined from over 100,000 per year in the early 1960s, to just over 20,000 a year in 1979 and 1980. In addition, the number of species imported has dropped from 106 from 1968 to 1972, down to 68 species from 1976 to 1980 (Table 1). There are five reasons for this:
1) In 1975, the Public Health Service banned pet primate imports which eliminated most South American species imported for the pet trade.
2) Under the U.S. Endangered Species Act of 1973, and subsequent listing under the Act, many endangered species could no longer be imported commercially.
3) In 1975, CITES was implemented and it also protects endangered primates from entering trade. Much overlap exists with listed species on CITES Appendix I and the U.S. Endangered Species Act.
4) Several countries over the last 15 years have instituted complete or partial wildlife trade bans which include primates. Three of these countries, India, Peru, and Colombia, provided about 75% of the primates to the U.S. in the early 1970s.
5) The inflationary cost of primates and increased number of captive breeding colonies in the U.S. have reduced somewhat the demand for primates in the biomedical and pharmaceutical community.

Preliminary range discrepancy analysis shows that over 600 Common marmosets (Callithrix jacchus) entered the U.S. from Paraguay between 1978 and 1980. This species only occurs in Brazil where it is fully protected. Illegal wildlife trade from Paraguay on a large scale (which included birds, reptiles, and mammals) was uncovered last year by the CITES Secretariat. As a result, no common marmosets have entered the U.S. since June 1980.

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1. W. H. Prescott. History of the Conquest of Peru. 1975.

PSITTACINES

During the nine month period, October 1979 to June 1980, over 200,000 psittacines were imported into the U.S. This involves 133 species, originating in 50 countries, and covers 40% of all parrot species. Parrots make up just over 45% of all birds imported into the U.S. Regionally, parrots make up over 99% of birds exported from the Neotropics, 20% of all bird imports from Asia, and 30% of all bird imports from Africa (Table 2).

Most parrots imported by the U.S. came from South and Central America (95,000) and Africa (80,000); however, 56% of the parrots exported from Africa were captive bred cockatiels exported from South Africa (Table 3).

The parrot report illustrates that over 37% (or 75,000) of all psittacines imported by the U.S. during the nine month period came from countries other than their true country of origin. Of these only 30,000 were declared as either captive bred or re-exports. While many of the remaining 45,000 were cockatiels and budgerigars that were certainly captive bred, other species were transhipped and originated in countries that protect them.

REPTILES

In 1980, over 400,000 live reptiles were exported to the U.S. Less than 2% were imported for scientific or non-commercial purposes. More than 500 species were imported from 48 countries; the two largest were Guatemala (125,000) and Thailand (108,000) which exported over half of all imports (Table 4).

TROPICAL FISH

The number of tropical fish imported into the U.S. has increased from under 100 million per year in the early 1970s to approximately 150 million in 1979. The majority are freshwater species that are captive bred on fish farms in Southeast Asia. In addition, Florida fish farmers estimate they sell 150 - 200 million freshwater fish annually. As a result, keeping tropical fish is the third largest hobby in the U.S.

CITES AND TRAFFIC

CITES has effectively slowed the commercial trade in endangered species; however, permits are easily obtained for several hundred species listed on CITES Appendix II (threatened), and very few biologists are out in the field determining if the trade in these species is detrimental to the wild populations.

In addition, another grave problem looms ahead: fewer countries are being called upon to supply the growing demands of the live wildlife and product trade. Over the last 15 years, several countries, which were once large wildlife exporters , banned the commercial trade of all or some wildlife species including Brazil, Colombia, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Australia, Papua New Guinea, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand. For example, 83% of the primates imported by the U.S. in 1980 came from only 5 countries (Table 5). Similarly, 10 countries exported 85% of the parrots sent to the U.S., and 7 countries supplied 88% of the reptiles to the U.S. Very few field studies on these species, if any, have been carried out recently in the countries involved. So the goose that laid the golden egg may become extinct before the situation can be rectified.

WHAT TRAFFIC CAN DO FOR AAZPA MEMBERS

Now that I've thoroughly numbed your brain with statistics, let's talk about TRAFFIC's relationship with zoos. Most of our staff, including myself, were trained in zoos and we are anxious to share our data with you in a meaningful way. We are all aware that the orientation of both zoos and TRAFFIC is wildlife conservation and education. Many of the species presently maintained in zoos have become (or are in the process of becoming) endangered by trade, be it as crocodile bags or hyacinth macaws for television commercials. Conservation themes and displays to educate the misguided consumers looking into a crocodile exhibit could be underlined by facts and figures about the world trade. Some zoos already have such graphics, but the information valid 3 years ago may now need updating.

TRAFFIC(U.S.A.) has just initiated a series of wildlife trade fact sheets for educational purposes. A prototype sheet on elephant ivory is available. It lists U.S. imports in relation to world trade, legislation protecting the African and Asian elephants , average tusk weights and market value. Future fact sheets will discuss parrots, sea turtles, and even the obscure pangolin skin trade (the U.S. imported over 31,000 skins in 1980 for the cowboy boot industry). We offer these to zoos along with our Newsletter as an educational tool to distribute to docents and school groups. The AAZPA has included conservation and education programs in its sphere of interest for years. Wildlife trade evaluation and information plays an important role in monitoring the world's renewable resources, and more people need to be made aware of it.

CONCLUSIONS

What can we conclude from all this? I hope that we are beginning to have a better idea of what animals are going where

and the numbers involved. TRAFFIC is part of the solution of the IUCN World Conservation Strategy in carefully managing our not-so-renewable resources. We provide the base-line information for others to act upon, be it the producers or consumers or legislators who can then loosen or tighten controls. Zoos can and should also play a key role in making sure these facts and figures reach the right people: the soon-to-be consumers and their parents. We are here to inform and to help. Use us.

TABLE 1

U.S. IMPORTS OF PRIMATES

FAMILY	1968 - 1972	1976 - 1980
TUPAIIDAE	2,699	3,071
INDRIIDAE	11	0
LEMURIDAE	138	13
LORISIDAE	1,488	856
TARSIIDAE	1	0
CEBIDAE	253,271	13,911
CALLITRICHIDAE	30,372	8,203
CERCOPITHECIDAE	171,121	91,944
HYLOBATIDAE	753	7
PONGIDAE	1,201	82
UNIDENTIFIED PRIMATES	47	162
TOTAL	461,102	118,249
NO. OF SPECIES	106	68

Source: 1968-1972, Mammals Imported into the United States, Special Scientific Reports - Wildlife, FWS, USDI.

1976-1980, TRAFFIC(U.S.A.) analysis of 3-177 Declaration of Importation documents, FWS, USDI.

TABLE 2

ORIGIN OF LIVE BIRD IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED STATES
(October 1979 - June 1980)

REGION	PSITTACINES	ALL BIRDS	PERCENT OF PSITTACINES
PACIFIC	4,640	5,658	82.0%
ASIA-MIDDLE EAST	9,434	46,319	20.4%
AFRICA	82,801	270,919	30.6%
NEW WORLD	95,045	95,691	99.3%
EUROPE & CANADA	9,433	23,281	40.5%
UNKNOWN	343	367	93.5%
TOTAL	201,696	442,235	45.6%

Source: U.S. Imports of Psittacines, TRAFFIC(U.S.A.)

TABLE 3

NUMBER OF PSITTACINES IMPORTED INTO THE U.S. BY GEOGRAPHICAL REGION

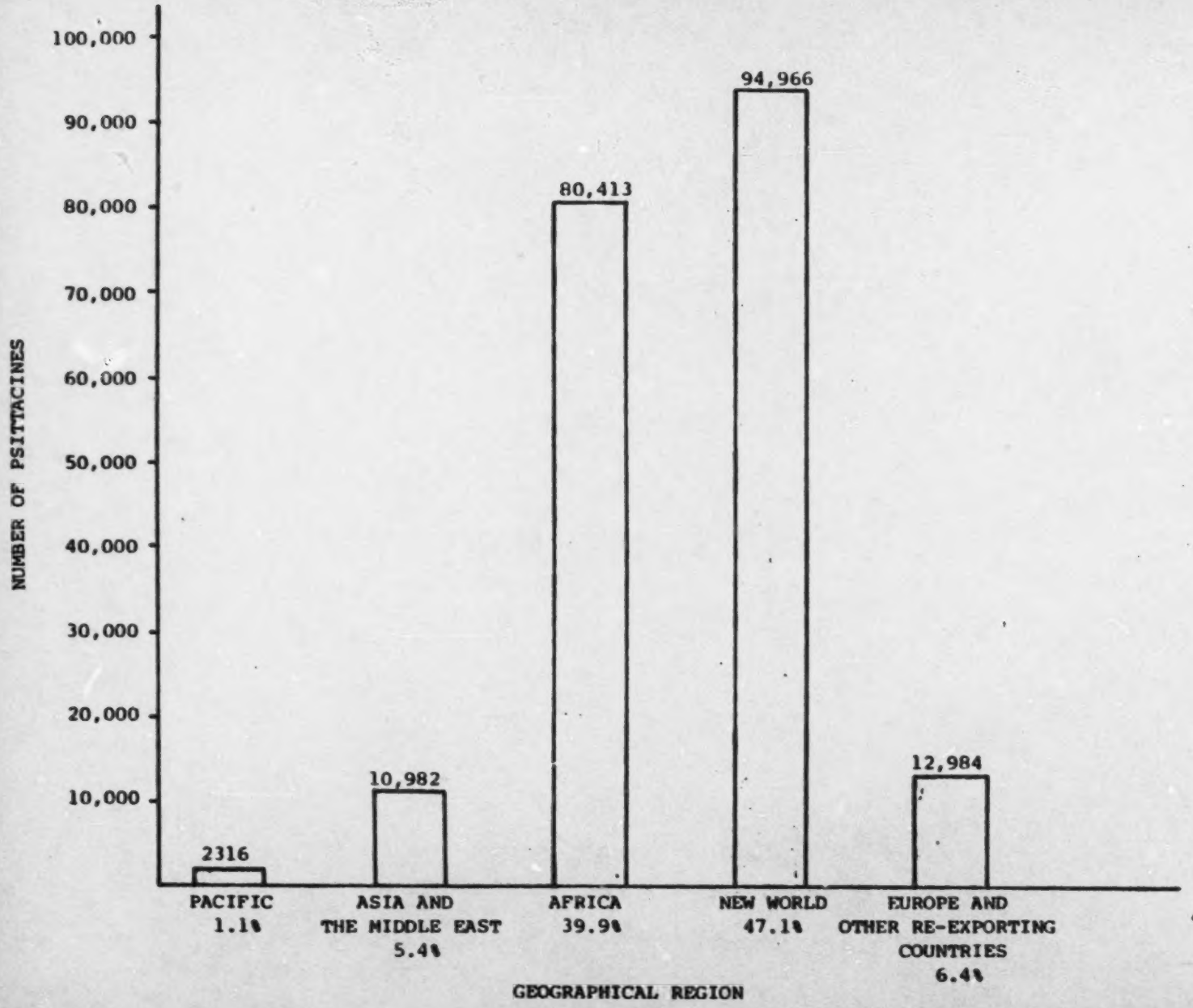

TABLE 4

1980

U.S. IMPORTS OF LIVE REPTILES

BY GEOGRAPHICAL REGION

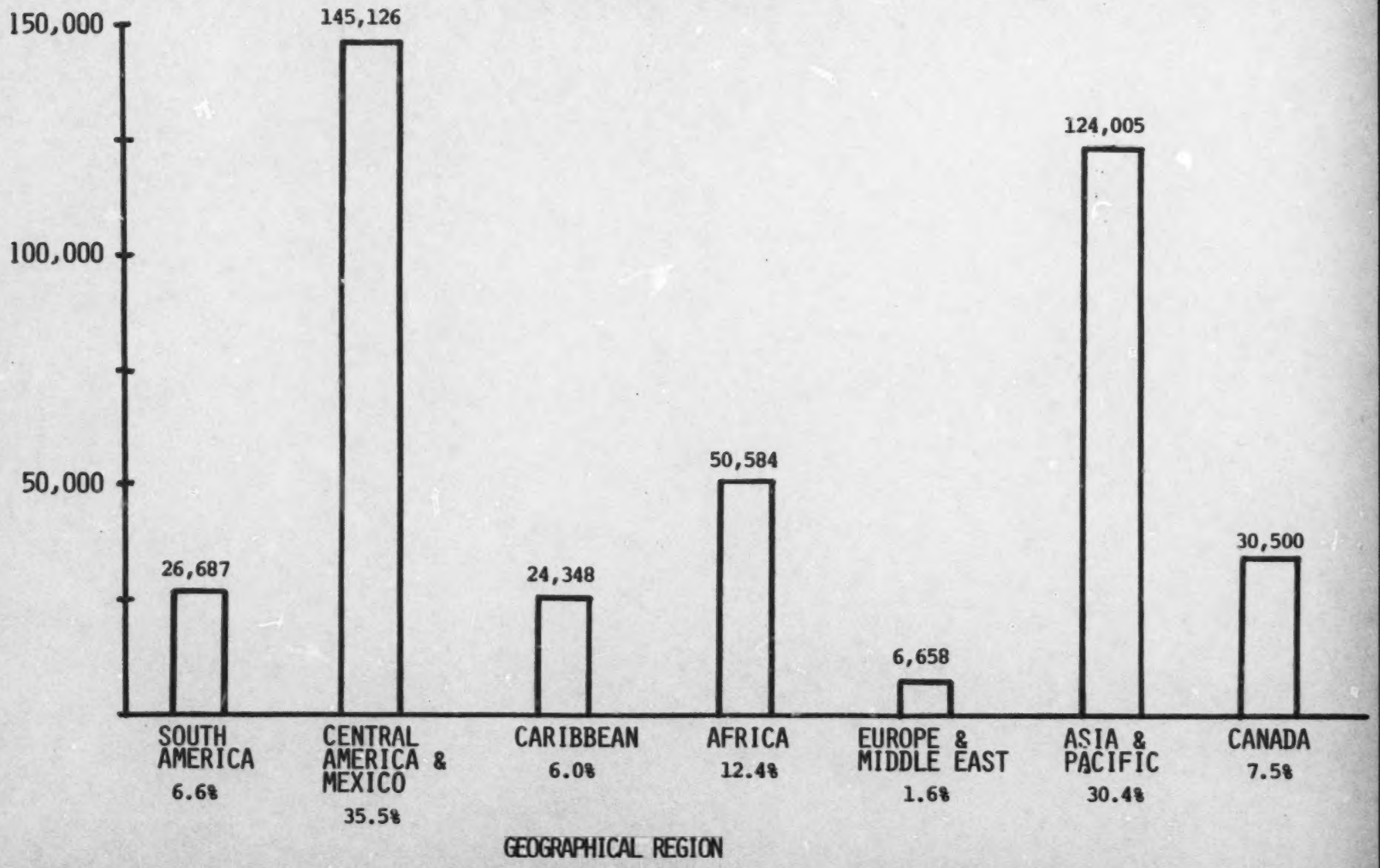

TABLE 5

MAJOR EXPORTERS OF LIVE WILDLIFE TO THE U.S. IN 1980

EXPORTING COUNTRY	QUANTITY PRIMATES	PSITTACINES*	REPTILES
CHINA		8,066#	
INDONESIA	5,066		
PHILIPPINES	6,693		
THAILAND			108,826
KENYA	1,210		38,728
SENEGAL		8,251	
SOMALIA	1,456		
SOUTH AFRICA		48,266#	
TANZANIA		19,213	
ARGENTINA		10,438	
BOLIVIA	2,564	15,022	
GUATEMALA			125,906
GUYANA		10,193	18,359
HAITI			24,264
HONDURAS			13,664
MEXICO		22,226	
PERU		14,132	
URUGUAY		16,000	
CANADA			30,500
TOTAL	16,989 (5 countries)	171,807 (10 countries)	360,247 (7 countries)
TOTAL EXPORTS	20,368 (33 countries)	201,696 (48 countries)	408,129 (48 countries)
% of TOTAL EXPORTS	83%	85%	88%

* Nine month period from October 1979 - June 1980. The number of primates and reptiles represent totals for the entire year 1980.

\# Most of these are captive bred budgerigars and cockatiels.

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WORLD WILDLIFE FUND-U.S.

RIVER OTTER EXPORT

AND

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

(1981 edition)

prepared by

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SYNOPSIS

Introduction

During the 1970's, 29 states trapped river otters Lutra canadensis for their pelts. A total of 227,074 otters were harvested in the United States during the last ten years (Table 1). The number taken since the early 1970's appears to have increased (Figure 1): less than 20,000 yearly were reportedly captured prior to the 1976/77 season, while over 33,000 were harvested last year. It must be noted however that prior to 1977 many states did not report trapping records. This increase over the last ten years may therefore also reflect the consequence of better reporting systems which have been recently implemented in several states.

During the 1979/80 trapping season 33,659 river otters were trapped: Louisiana reported over 9,200 taken, and Alabama, Alaska, Florida, Georgia, and North Carolina each trapped over 2,000 river otters during the same season. Several states have increased their river otter take: Maryland reported less than 150 otters per year taken during the early 1970's, while harvesting over 300 during the 1979/80 season; Georgia increased its annual reported take from several hundred in the early 1970's to over 3,000 per year during the last three seasons. Louisiana has consistently trapped more otters than any other state: from 5,000 to almost 12,000 river otters annually between 1970 and 1980.

CITES

After the inception of CITES in 1973, it was soon realized that many of the already listed species, including some of the otters, were still

relatively common at least in North America, or too obscure (such as the Sumatran otter) as to appear in trade. Thus, at the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES held at Berne, Switzerland in 1976, it was decided that, in the future, in order to determine the appropriate Appendix onto which a species should be placed, the biological and trade status of the species should be evaluated together. These requirements for determining status, given below, are known as the "Berne Criteria."

Appendix I

1. Biological status. To qualify for Appendix I, a species must be currently threatened with extinction. Information of any of the following types is required, in order of preference: a) scientific reports on the population size or geographic range of the species based on single surveys or longitudinal studies, b) reports by reliable observers other than scientists on the population size or geographic range of the species over a number of years, or c) reports from various sources on habitat destruction, heavy trade or other potential causes of extinction. Genera should be listed if most of their species are threatened with extinction and if identification of individual species within the genus is difficult or confusing. If most of the species are not threatened, but identification of individual species is difficult, the entire larger taxon (genus or family) should be placed on Appendix II.

2. Trade status. Species meeting the biological criteria should be listed in Appendix I if they are or may be affected by international

trade. This would include any endangered species that might be expected to be traded for any purpose, scientific or otherwise. Particular attention is given to any species for which such trade might, over a period of time, involve numbers constituting a significant portion of the total population size which could be detrimental to its continued survival. The biological status and trade status of a species are often and obviously related. When biological data show a species to be declining seriously, there need be only a probability of trade. When trade is known to occur, information on the biological status need not be as complete. This principle especially applies to groups of related species such as otters, where trade or the name listed on documents can and does readily shift from one species that is well-known to another for which there is little biological information and vice versa.

Appendix II

1. Biological status. To qualify for Appendix II, species need not currently be threatened with extinction, but there should be some indication that they might become so. Such an indication might be a decreasing or very limited population size or geographic range of distribution. Information on biological status should be similar to that required for Appendix I species. Genera can be listed if some of their species are threatened and identification of individual species within the genus is difficult. For instance, all otters not listed on Appendix I are listed on Appendix II.

2. Trade status. Species meeting the biological criteria should be listed if they presently are subject to trade or are likely to become subject to trade. The latter situation can arise where heavy trade in one species is intended to include similar species if the demand grows or

if supplies of the one species are depleted. The amount of trade that a species can sustain without threat of extinction generally will be greater for species in Appendix II than for those in Appendix I, so there should be evidence of actual or expected trade in such a volume as to constitute a potential threat to survival of the species. Appendix II serves in part as a monitoring tool to gather such trade data and is not intended to curtail trade.

According to U.S. CITES Reports, the United States exported 18,931 otter skins in three years, 1977 to 1980. Most of the pelts were exported to Canada, West Germany, Switzerland, and Austria (Table 2). Assuming most pelts are exported in the Calendar Year following trapping (i.e. 1977/78 trapping season pelts were exported in Calendar Year 1978), only 9% of the 1977 otter pelts taken, 40% of the 1978 pelts and 15% of the 1979 pelts taken were actually exported. These percentages give cause for concern since the demand for river otter pelts in the United States is relatively small and most states claim that they export the majority of their otter skins to Canada and Europe. This discrepancy probably stems from the CITES Permit Office (Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior) not issuing, receiving or recording all the required export permits due to unfamiliarity of the new permit system; it is likely that in 1977 and 1978 quite a few otter skins left the United States without a CITES export permit. This discrepancy should improve over time.

Canada also has large populations of Lutra canadensis. According to otter harvest reports, 116,924 river otters were taken during the 1970/71 to 1976/77 seasons (Table 1). Canada exported over 3,400 river otter skins and 157 finished otter products in 1977 and over 4,800 skins and

189 products in 1978 (Table 4); most of the skins were exported to Italy, Switzerland, the United States, and West Germany. Based on the 1976/77 trapping records and the 1977 CITES reports, Canada exported around 17% of their harvested otters in 1977. It is likely that many more were exported, and like the United States, either CITES permits were not issued or received by the Canadian CITES authorities. Based on trapping records in the United States from 1970 to 1980 and in Canada from 1970 to 1976, a minimum of 333,998 river otters were harvested in both countries during the 1970's (Table 1). In the United States, river otter pelt prices rose from an average of $18 in 1970 to $53 in 1976, and in Canada, pelt prices increased from $28 in 1970 to around $70 in 1975 and 1976.

A total of only 10,006 Lutra canadensis skins were imported by all countries in 1977 (re-exports included) and 16,976 skins in 1978 (Table 5). An additional 87 finished products (such as coats and jackets) and 180 finished articles in 1978 were imported. West Germany imported approximately one third of the skins, and large numbers of pelts were imported by Austria, Canada, Italy, Switzerland and the United States.

Many discrepancies exist between what a country claims to export and what the importing country claims to receive from that exporting country. For example, in 1977 the United States reported exports of 434 otter skins to West Germany while West Germany recorded imports of 3,506 skins from the U.S. (Table 5). Similarly, the U.S. reported exportsof 2,187 skins to Switzerland in 1978 while Switzerland recorded imports of only 195 skins from the U.S. (Table 2). Canada reported exports of 1,540 skins to Switzerland in 1977, another 1,024 in 1978 and 1,128 in 1979 while Switzerland lists no imports of otter skins from Canada in 1977 and only 76 skins in 1978 (Table 5).

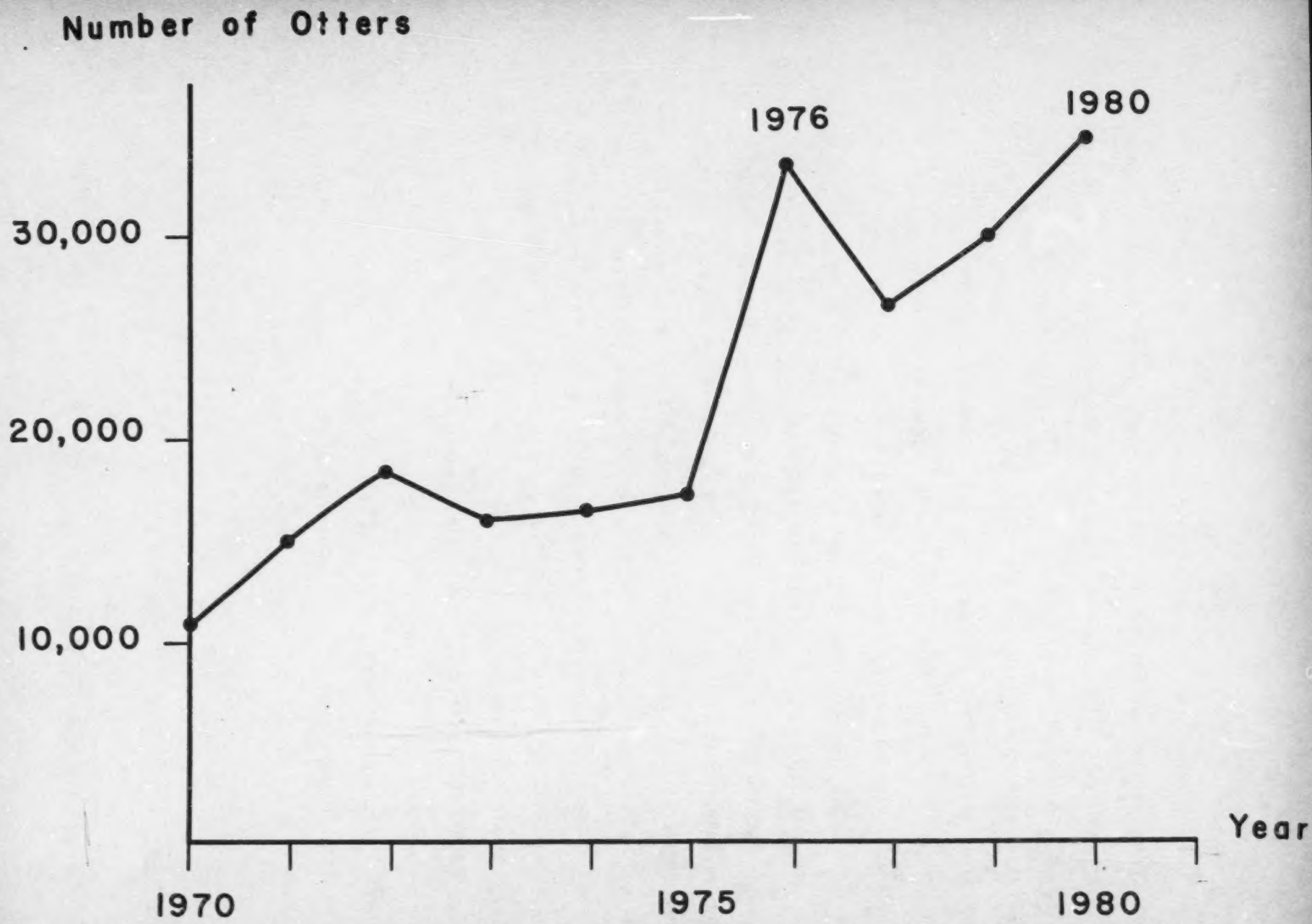
Several other species of river otter are harvested for their pelts and traded worldwide. According to CITES Reports, West Germany imported over 16,000 Lutra skins (unspecified) in 1977 and over 24,000 skins in 1978 (Tables 6 and 7); of these, 8,349 skins in 1977, 17,273 in 1978 and 20,260 in 1979 came from Paraguay, and over 2,000 to 4,000 otter skins per year were exported from Peru (all South American otters are on CITES Appendix I, i.e. threatened with eminent extinction and banned from trade). Both the United Kingdom and West Germany reported the re-export of Lutra skins in their CITES Reports (Table 6); most of these remain in Europe.

In conclusion, we can say that the trade of Lutra canadensis skins from Canada and the United States continues to thrive. High pelt prices and increased demand for otter skins by the European fur industry are the incentives, while on the other hand, pollution and habitat loss are also taking their toll of otters indirectly. CITES has been ratified by 75 nations concerned with sound conservation and management of potentially valuable species...and it is interesting to note that it is the "producing" countries which are now more conservative of their wildlife resources than "consuming" countries in the northern hemisphere. Otters are but one of the many aspects which reflect and illustrate the conflict between man's insistence to profit from whatever resources are available regardless of the consequence this may have on future generations and his concern to maintain an equilibrium in the fragile ecosystem of this planet.

References

Deems, E.F. and D. Pursley (1978). North American Furbearers, Their Management, Research and Harvest Status in 1976. Fur Resources Committee, the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

FIGURE 1



Numbers of Otters Taken in the United States, 1970-1980

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Table 1

NUMBER OF RIVER OTTERS HARVESTED IN THE UNITED STATES (BY STATE) AND CANADA

	1970/71	1971/72	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75	1975/76	1976/77	1977/78	1978/79	1979/80
ALABAMA								1500	2145	3085
ALASKA	1500	2000	2570	2540	2074		3355	1981	1991	2159
ARKANSAS	56	38	76	25	37	123	363	419	749	400
CONNECTICUT		14	7	7	13	14	10	63	74	107
DELAWARE	30	25	25	25	25	25	50	70	45	62
FLORIDA						856	2883	3326	2112	2100
GEORGIA	670	222	585	453	624	495	3187	3097	3643	3597
IDAHO	40			1						
LOUISIANA	4808	5440	7668	5989	6118	5730	11900	6597	9745	9256
MAINE	588	637	593	871	1007	898	531	675	693	965
MARYLAND	131	360	218	208	141	130	182	187	262	336
MASSACHUSETTS	76	53	71	66	66	103	108	163	121	157
MICHIGAN	633	832	1152	459	609	914	910	660	730	1135
MINNESOTA		784	1079	185	315	2664		492	707	1186
MISSISSIPPI							1314	1260	952	1389
MONTANA	32	24	34	48	42	28	48	40	34	98
NEVADA	5	18	23	54	8	8	45			
NEW HAMPSHIRE	135	157	208	186	170	181	205	236	206	351
NEW YORK	171	329	413	405	496	533	636	467	677	846
NORTH CAROLINA		1606	1407	968	893	878	1390	927	1357	1617
OREGON	198	265	331	298	339	276	439	300	348	558
RHODE ISLAND	4	1					34	15	25	
SOUTH CAROLINA				526	699	783	1351	560	476	535
TENNESSEE							2			
TEXAS					3	62	63			
VERMONT			11	27	28	27	27	42	76	126
VIRGINIA	890	648	642	602	612	594	1255	1141	813	1319
WASHINGTON	359	597	557	635	691	661	1287	760	722	759
WISCONSIN	483	960	1199	1492	1269	853	1271	1053	962	1448
TOTAL	10,809	15,010	18,869	16,070	16,279	16,836	32,846	28,031	29,665	33,659
AVG. PELT PRICE	$18	$25	$35	$32	$31	$50	$53			
TOTAL CANADA HARVEST	14,848	14,958	18,466	17,749	14,942	16,029	19,932			
AV. PELT PRICE	$28	$33.50	$47	$43	$43.50	$72	$69.04			

Source: 1970/71 - 1976/77 Trapping Season Data from North American Furbearers (Deems and Pursley, 1978);

TABLE 2

EXPORT OF RIVER OTTER (*LUTRA CANADENSIS*) SKINS
FROM THE UNITED STATES
(1977 - 1979)

IMPORTING COUNTRY	1977		1978		1979		3-YR TOTAL	
	SKIN	GARMENT	SKIN	GARMENT	SKIN	GARMENT	SKIN	GARMENT
ARGENTINA	-	-	42	-	85	-	127	-
AUSTRIA	584	-	651	-	321	-	1,556	-
CANADA	452	1	3,908	-	2,440	-	6,800	1
DENMARK	-	-	283	-	-	-	283	-
ITALY	97	-	156	-	277	-	530	-
JAPAN	-	-	-	-	16	-	16	-
SWITZERLAND	279	1	2,187	-	1,217	-	3,683	1
UNITED KINGDOM	49	-	-	-	-	-	49	-
WEST GERMANY	434	-	3,644	-	690	-	4,768	-
UNSPECIFIED	1,119	-	-	-	-	-	1,119	-
TOTAL	3,014	2	10,871	-	5,046	-	18,931	2

SOURCE: UNITED STATES ANNUAL CITES REPORTS, 1977 - 1979.

TABLE 3

U.S. RIVER OTTER (LUTRA CANADENSIS) EXPORT BY STATE
(FISCAL YEAR: OCTOBER THROUGH SEPTEMBER)

	STATE	FY 1978	FY 1979
	ALABAMA	164	528
	ALASKA	1225	315
	ARKANSAS	-	50
*	COLORADO	-	1
	CONNECTICUT	13	42
	DELAWARE	0	16
	FLORIDA	325	904
	GEORGIA	794	1538
*	IDAHO	1	-
	LOUISIANA	1776	1801
	MAINE	622	549
	MARYLAND	4	170
	MASSACHUSETTS	58	98
	MICHIGAN	4	121
	MINNESOTA	137	296
	MISSISSIPPI	76	115
*	MISSOURI	-	1
	MONTANA	22	10
	NEW HAMPSHIRE	26	113
	NEW YORK	27	259
	NORTH CAROLINA	775	741
	OREGON	222	283
	RHODE ISLAND	7	21
	SOUTH CAROLINA	357	178
*	TENNESSEE	-	15
*	UTAH	-	3
	VERMONT	81	36
	VIRGINIA	452	609
	WASHINGTON	438	382
	WISCONSIN	708	376
	UNKNOWN	269	1092
	TOTAL	8,583	10,663

* These states all have closed seasons. The figures presented may actually be errors made in identifying state abbreviations on tags or in tallying.

Source: Wildlife Permit Office, FWS, USDI

TABLE 4

EXPORT OF RIVER OTTER (*LUTRA CANADENSIS*) SKINS FROM CANADA (1977 - 1979)

IMPORTING COUNTRY	1977		1978		1979		3-YR TOTAL	
	SKIN	GARMENT	SKIN	GARMENT	SKIN	GARMENT	SKIN	GARMENT
ARGENTINA	-	-	-	-	283	-	283	-
AUSTRIA	-	-	245	-	-	-	245	-
DENMARK	-	-	-	-	100	-	100	-
ITALY	943	5	585	-	736	-	2,264	5
JAPAN	37	3	-	21	97	-	134	24
SWITZERLAND	1,540	79	1,024	45	1,128	24	3,692	148
UNITED KINGDOM	49	6	24	6	27	1	100	13
UNITED STATES	705 + 86kg	43	910 + 18kg	63	755	38	2,370 + 104kg	144
WEST GERMANY	94	13	2,066	42	1,350	21	3,510	76
OTHERS	64	8	20	12	239	9	323	29
TOTAL	3,432 + 86kg	157	4,874 + 18kg	189	4,715	93	13,021 + 104kg	439

SOURCE: CANADA ANNUAL CITES REPORTS, 1977 - 1979.

TABLE 5

IMPORT OF RIVER OTTER (LUTRA CANADENSIS)

SKINS AND FINISHED PRODUCTS

COUNTRY	1977 SKIN	1977 FINISHED PRODUCT	1978 SKIN	1978 FINISHED PRODUCT	EXPORTING COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
ARGENTINA			(42)		USA	USA
AUSTRIA	(584)		(651)		USA	USA
			(245)	(1)	CANADA	-
	(471)				UK	-
BELGIUM			(12)	(1)	CANADA	CANADA
* CANADA	(452)	(1)	(3,908)		USA	USA
	(13)				UK	-
* DENMARK			226	(283)	USA	USA
* FINLAND	(21)				CANADA	-
			22	(22)	USA	-
* FRANCE	(42)			(4)	CANADA	CANADA
HONG KONG			(8)		CANADA	CANADA
IRELAND				(1)	CANADA	CANADA
* ITALY			(10)		UK	USA
	(48)		(62)		UK	CANADA
	(97)		(156)		USA	USA
	(943)	(5)	(585)		CANADA	CANADA
			(278)		FRG	FRG
JAPAN	(37)	(3)		(21)	CANADA	CANADA
NETHERLANDS				(1)	CANADA	CANADA
* NORWAY	(1)	(2)			CANADA	CANADA

TABLE 5 (continued)
IMPORT OF RIVER OTTER (LUTRA CANADENSIS)

SKINS AND FINISHED PRODUCTS
(cont.)

COUNTRY	1977 SKIN	1977 FINISHED PRODUCT	1978 SKIN	1978 FINISHED PRODUCT	EXPORTING COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
SAUDI ARABIA		(1)			CANADA	CANADA
SPAIN			(42)		UK	-
		(3)			CANADA	CANADA
* SWEDEN		(2)		(4)	CANADA	CANADA
* SWITZERLAND			195		USA	CANADA
	108 (279)	1 (1)	(1,992)		USA	USA
			12 (13)	4	FRG	USA
			(2)	(1)	FRG	CANADA
	(1,540)	58 (79)	76 (1,024)	38 (45)	CANADA	-
			82 (82)		ITALY	
			8		UK	
* UNITED KINGDOM#	153 (49)				USA	-
	48 (49)	(6)	(24)	(6)	CANADA	-
			1		NORWAY	CANADA
* UNITED STATES		4 (4)	1	(1)	DENMARK	-
	2,256 (705)	1 (43)	1,924 (910)	14 (63)	CANADA	CANADA
	86 KG		18 KG		CANADA	CANADA
			177 (177)		FRG	CANADA
* WEST GERMANY	42 (128)			(40)	UK	-
	94 (94)		2,163 (2,066)	(42)	CANADA	-
	3,056 (434)		3,094 (3,644)		USA	-
				(1)	SWITZERLAND	-
			(168)		DENMARK	USA
TOTALS:	10,006 + 86 KG	87	16,976 + 18 KG	180		

* CITES Party Country
\# UK Import Figures for 1978 are partial.
( ) The number in parenthesis is the export figure listed in the exporting country's CITES Report.
Source: 1977 and 1978 CITES Reports by Canada, Denmark, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States, West Germny, Italy, and Finland.

TABLE 6

IMPORT OF RIVER OTTER (LUTRA SPECIES)

SKINS AND FINISHED PRODUCTS

Importing Country	Species	Quantity 1977	Quantity 1978	Country of Origin or Re-export
FINLAND	Lutra lutra		9	USSR
SWITZERLAND	Lutra spp. (unspecified)		40	West Germany
		4		Turkey
		1		United Kingdom
	Lutra lutra	116		West Germany*
UNITED KINGDOM	Lutra lutra	20 (re-import)		Belgium
UNITED STATES	Lutra spp. (unspecified)	12		Argentina
WEST GERMANY	Lutra spp. (unspecified)	2,337		United Kingdom
		4,411	4,006	Peru
		39	54	Belize
		101	389	Panama
		8,349	17,273	Paraguay
		73	1	Argentina
		268		India
		681		Austria
			1,374	Bolivia
			162	Mexico
			272	Italy
			690	Iraq
			10 products	Argentina
			467 products	Greenland

* These skins reportedly originated in Paraguay, a country where L. lutra does not exist.

Source: 1977 and 1978 CITES Reports from Finland, the United Kingdom, the United States, West Germany and Switzerland.

TABLE 7A

OTTER SKINS IMPORTED INTO WEST GERMANY
(1979)

SPECIES	QUANTITY	DECLARED COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
Lutra canadensis	100 Skin	*Denmark
	1,403 "	Canada
	1,411 "	U.S.A.
	11 Garments	Canada
Lutra enudris	22 Skin	*Belize
	639 "	*Honduras
	63 "	*Panama
	20,260 "	*Paraguay
	2,314 "	*Peru
	5 Garments	*Argentina
Lutra incarum	511 Skin	*Austria
	385 "	*Panama
	156 "	*Paraguay

* Species not indigenous to country.

Source: 1979 West Germany CITES Annual Report.

TABLE 7B

OTTER SKINS RE-EXPORTED FROM WEST GERMANY
(1979)

SPECIES	QUANTITY	DESTINATION	DECLARED COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
Lutra enudris	40 Skin	Italy	*Bolivia
	60 "	Switzerland	*Colombia
	308 "	Austria	*Mexico
	442 "	Greenland	*Paraguay
	134 "	Netherlands	*Paraguay
	335 "	Austria	*Paraguay
	109 "	Switzerland	*Paraguay
	336 "	Netherlands	*Peru
	647 "	U.S.S.R.	*Peru
	2 Garments	Netherlands	*Paraguay
Lutra incarum	500 Skin	Greenland	*Paraguay
	130 "	Austria	*Paraguay
	3,300 "	Switzerland	*Paraguay
	290 "	Greenland	Peru
	1 "	Netherlands	Peru
	88 "	Switzerland	Peru
Lutra canadensis	60 Skin	Austria	Canada
	2 "	Switzerland	Canada
	4 Garments	France	Canada
	2 "	U.S.A.	Canada

* Species not indigenous to country.

Source: 1979 West Germany CITES Annual Report.